

Claims 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11, in line 1 of each:
delete "1" and insert -- 13 --.

Claim 3, line 1: delete "planar"

Claim 10, line 2: delete "chamber" and insert
-- receptacle --

R E M A R K S

The rejection of the claims under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over Gross is respectfully traversed insofar as this ground of rejection is applied to the claims as presently amended.

New claim 13 has been substituted for original claim 1 and is believed to distinguish over the reference to Gross. Inasmuch as no new matter is introduced by the amendment, entry thereof is respectfully requested.

In the paragraph bridging pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner states, inter alia:

"The bottom portion [of Gross] has a [plurality] of elements 12-15 cooperating along longitudinal axis to form at least two planar fins which extend radially from wider bases to narrower apices. Gross shows the bases cooperating at a lower end to maintain the apparatus positionally stable. Gross shows the fins forming at least one outwardly facing channel in that the channels face outwardly from the trap entrance when viewed from the inside at the bottom. Note that the channels narrow from the base to the apex."

New claim 13 clearly defines the fins so as to distinguish over the alleged "fins" of Gross. Thus, note that claim 13 now defines the bottom portion as:

"comprising at least a first and a second fin, said first fin being disposed in a first substantially vertical plane and said second fin being disposed in a second substantially vertical plane, said first and second fins extending radially outwardly from a common longitudinal axis defined by a line of intersection of said first and second substantially vertical planes."

It is also noted that the claim now specifies that:

"a surface of said first fin and a surface of said second fin [define] opposing channel surfaces of an outwardly facing channel..."

The channel surfaces are directly exposed to the environment in which the target species are present, thereby ensuring attraction to the apparatus by target species which are in position beyond the perimeter of the apparatus.

It is believed that the Examiner will agree that Gross neither discloses nor suggests a structure defined by present claim 13.

The indication by the Examiner of the allowability of claims 5 and 7 is gratefully acknowledged. By the above amendment, applicant has endeavored to place the remainder of the claims in condition for allowance. Accordingly, withdrawal of this ground of rejection and early allowance are earnestly solicited.

Serial No. 08/654,600

Docket No. 5383

To the extent necessary, applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. Please charge any fees due to Deposit Account No. 11-0610 (Docket No. 5383).

Respectfully submitted,

KERKAM, STOWELL,
KONDRACKI & CLARKE, P.C.



Dennis P. Clarke
Registration No. 22,549

DPC:lef

Two Skyline Place, Suite 600
5203 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3401
Telephone: (703) 998-3302
Facsimile: (703) 998-5634